THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) ;and (b). The Government have decided to establish Benches of Gauhati High Court in the Capitals of Tripura, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh after necessary infrastructural facilities have been provided by the concerned State Governments.

Demands for establishing Benches of Allahabad, Madhya Pradesh and Madras High Courts were referred to the Jaswant Singh Commission and recommendations of the Commission were sent to the concerned State Governments for views/comments in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts. Recommendations of the Commission on the general question of having Benches of High Courts away from their principal seats were sent to the Government of Karnataka for views and comments on their earlier proposal for establishing a Bench of the High Court at Hubli–Dharwar. No specific, complete proposal has been received from these State Governments, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts.

The proposal of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration for having a Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Port Blair has not been agreed to on account of insufficient institution of cases in the High Court from the Union Territory. Proposal received from the Government of West Bengal and the Calcutta High Court for establishing a Bench of the High Court in North Bengal is engaging the attention of the Government. No proposal has been received from any other State Government.

(c), (d) and (e). No, Sir. The recommendations of the Jaswant Singh Commission on the broad principles and criteria to be followed in assessing the expediency and desirability of setting up a Bench of the High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the Bench has been sent to all the State Governments and the High Courts for information and guidance.

Import/Export of Garments

3887. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of garments exported and imported during 1990–91 and 1991–92;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned through the exports of garments during 1991–92; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the garments export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). The details of garment exported during 1990–91 and 1991–92 are as follows:

		1990–91	*1991–92 (upto Jan. '92)*
(i)	Quantity (in thousand Pcs)	615000	537071
(ii)	Value (In Rs. Crores)	4640	4441

Import of garments is not allowed (Provisional)

(c) Government have taken a number of steps to boost export of garments like modernisation of Garment industry by allowing import of garment manufacturing machinery at concessional duty, organising buyer seller meets and participation in fairs, providing adequate encouragement to manufacturer–exporters and non–quota exports through Garment Quota Policy etc.

[*English*]

Conversion of Public Undertakings into Public Limited Companies

3888. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI TARA CHAND KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to convert a number of Public Sector Corporations under his Ministry including Delhi Transport Corporation into Public Limited Companies and to convert the existing loans given to those Corporations and interest acrued thereon into equity;

(b) if so, the details therefor; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The proposals in respect of the following Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Surface Transport are under consideration:–

Delhi Transport Corporation

There is a proposal under consideration for Delhi Transport Corporation to be converted into Public Limited Company and to work out an inter–connected package for the rehabilitation of DTC in order to ensure its long term viability.

Dredging Corporation of India

(i) As a consequence of the decision of the Government to partially disinvest the share of selected Public Sector Undertakings in favour of Mutual Funds/Financial Institutions upto 20% of the paid-up capital, action has been taken to convert the Dredging Corporation of India into a Public Limited Company within the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. However, no decision has been taken to convert the existing loans given to DCI and the interest accrued thereon into equity.

(ii) As a result of the partial disinvestment 402300 shares of face value of Rs. 10/- each of DCI have been sold to a Mutual Fund.

(iii) The shares have been sold in pursuance of the general policy of the Government to disinvest the shares of selected Public Sector Undertakings to Mutual Funds/Financial Institutions.

Shipping Corporation of India

(i) It has been decided by the Government to dis-invest Government's share hoiding in the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. As per this decision, so far 10.34% of equity shares of Government in the SCI have been sold to the Financial Institutions and Mutual Funds. In view of the decision to have wider holding of shares, the SCI will have to be converted into a Public Limited Company.

(ii) In the case of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. Government had converted loans to the extent of Rs. 191.04 crores granted upto 31.3.1990 into equity in March, 1991. Government have also decided in March 1991 to provide funds to SCI during the year 1990–91 in the ratio of 3:1 of loans